

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-13, 15-33, and 35-58 are pending, with claims 1, 30, and 56 being independent. Claims 14 and 34 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 30, 33, and 56-58 have been amended. No new subject matter has been added.

### **Claim Objections**

Claim 56 has been objected to because of an informality. Claim 56 has been amended to correct a minor typographical error. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to claim 56.

### **Section 101 Rejections**

Claims 1-13, 15-33, and 35-58 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Specifically, the Office Action contends that the recited claims are not (1) tied to another statutory class, nor (2) transform a particular article into a different state or thing. See Office Action mailed January 26, 2009 at page 3. Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite “using at least one processor to register a textual identifier with an online service provider to enable instant messaging communications sessions involving the single textual identifier,” “using at least one processor to project a first of the manifestations of the single textual identifier to a first of the other users,” and “using at least one processor to concurrently project a second of the manifestations of the single textual identifier to a second of the other users.” Independent claims 30, and 56 have been similarly amended. Therefore, the processes recited in amended independent claims 1, 30, and 56 are (1) tied to a particular machine or apparatus and (2) transform a particular article into a different state or thing. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of amended independent claims 1, 30, and 56 and their respective dependent claims.

### **Section 112 Rejections**

Claims 33, 57, and 58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 33, 57, and 58 have been amended to no longer recite "sound" as being part of a displayable self-expression. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 33, 57, and 58.

### **Nonstatutory Double Patenting Rejections**

The Office action rejected claims 1-5, 12, 16, 18-20, 22, 25, 28-33, 35, 36, 47-50, 53, and 56 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1, 8-12, 25, 36, 37, 42, 47, 48, and 63-64 of co-pending Application No. 10/747,696. Filed herewith is a terminal disclaimer obviating this rejection.

### **Conclusion**

Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance.

It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

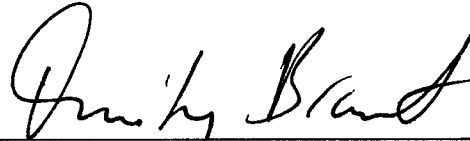
The terminal disclaimer fee of \$140 is being paid over the Electronic Filing System by way of deposit account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

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Respectfully submitted,

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